

## ABSTRACT

"A protective device"

A protective device (1) for protecting an optical head (2) of a disc drive unit against  
5 dirt and dust and shock when the disc drive unit is not in use comprises a carrier disc  
(5) similar to a music CD disc for engaging in the disc receiving area of the disc drive  
unit. A brush member (6) located on the carrier disc (5) at a position corresponding  
to the inner data track (10) of a music CD disc is provided for engaging a lens (3)  
and a peripheral portion (7) of a lens carrier (4) of the head (2) when the head (2) is  
10 in the inactive position for protecting the lens (3) and the peripheral portion (7)  
against dirt and dust. Fibres (15) of the brush member (6) are of sufficient length to  
engage and embrace the lens (3) and the peripheral portion (7) of the lens carrier (4)  
when the head (2) is in the inactive position. The fibres (15) are of sufficient  
resilience for also protecting the head (2) against shock. The brush member (6) also  
15 cleans the lens (3) as the brush member (6) passes by the lens (3) on insertion and  
ejection of the carrier disc (5) in and from the disc receiving area. Further cleaning  
can be achieved by activating the disc drive unit for causing the head (2) to go  
through a number of data focusing cycles for urging the lens (3) into and out of the  
brush member (6).

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Figs. 1 and 3 to accompany the abstract.